California Department of Transportation ADA Strategic Plan (Self Evaluation)

(as defined by Californians for Disability Rights, Inc. v. California Department of Transportation, Case No.: C 06 5125

Settlement Agreement Re Class Action Settlement)



California Department of Transportation ADA Strategic Plan (as defined by Californians for Disability, Right)

(as defined by Californians for Disability Rights, Inc. v. California Department of Transportation, Case No.: C 06 5125 Settlement Agreement Re Class Action Settlement

Summarized Departmental Compliance Activities (Achievement Goals)

- A. Annual Expenditure: \$25 million must be spent annually.
- <u>B. Grievance Procedure</u>: All Grievances and Access Requests must be responded to within 15 working days.
- C. Accessibility Guidelines: DIB 82 must be revised.
- <u>D. Temporary Routes</u>: The accessibility of Temporary Routes through or around Work Zones must be defined and summarized, including modification of CA MUTCD and Caltrans' Construction Manual.
- E. Annual Report: Each federal fiscal year an Annual Report must be completed.
- F. Access Consultant: the Department must retain an Access Consultant.

 G. Notice: The Department must establish a walk site whose a consultant.
- <u>G. Notice</u>: The Department must establish a web site where a copy of the Settlement Notice will be available to the Public.
- H. CapM Projects: Highway Resurfacing and other CapM (2R and 3R) projects, where such projects are performed on a Vehicular Way with adjacent Pedestrian Facilities, triggers a requirement from immediate curb ramp and other pedestrian route accessibility improvements.

California Department of Transportation ADA Strategic Plan Appropriate Usage of the Annual Expenditure (\$25 million)

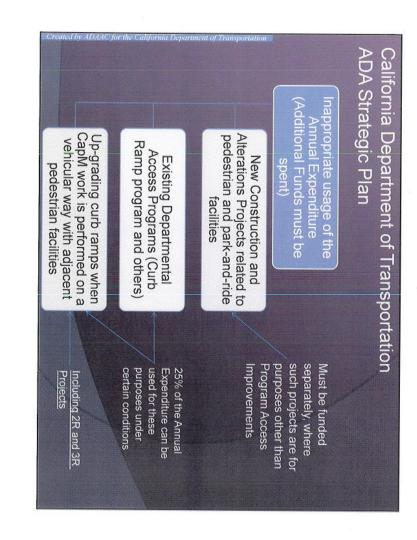
Regarding pedestrian paths and park-and-rides

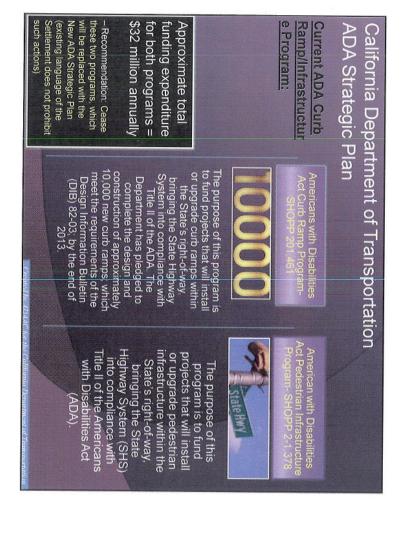
Note: In the event that the Department can or does obtain additional non-federal funding for Program Access Improvements, these additional funds will supplement the Department's Commitment. The Department will cooperate with other public entities that wish to undertake Program Access Improvements along Caltrans' Pedestrian Facilities

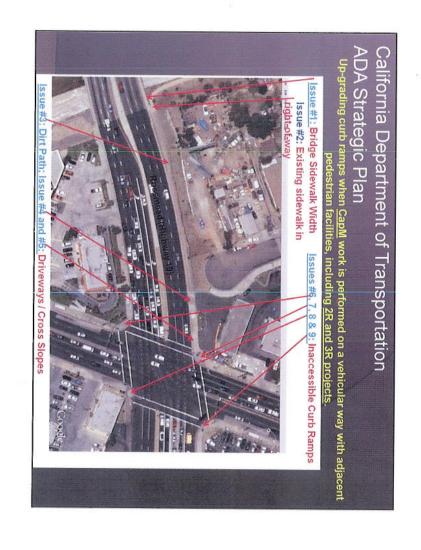
Program Access Improvements (Development and Construction Costs)

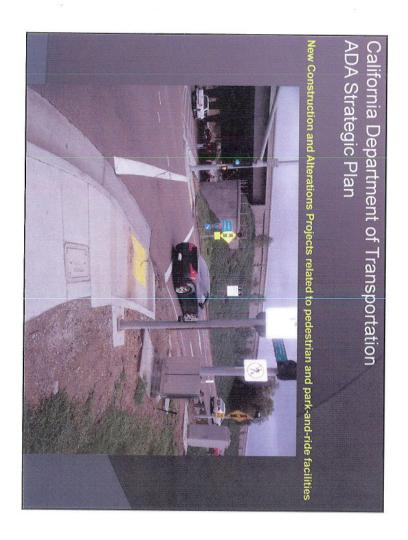
New Staffing or Contractors who specifically implement Program Access Improvements

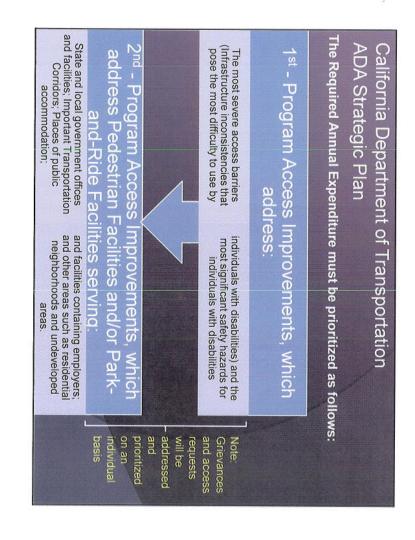
Costs pertaining to the new Accessibility Grievance Procedure, further surveying work, and retaining the Access Consultant

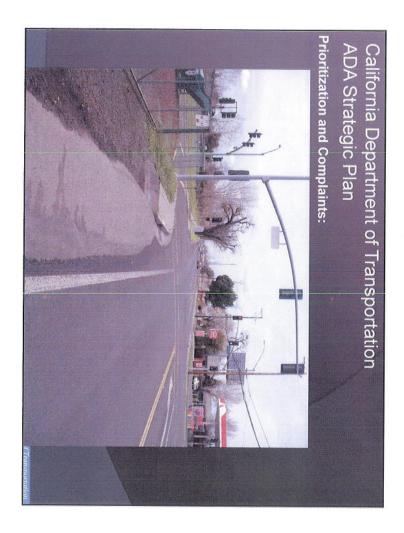










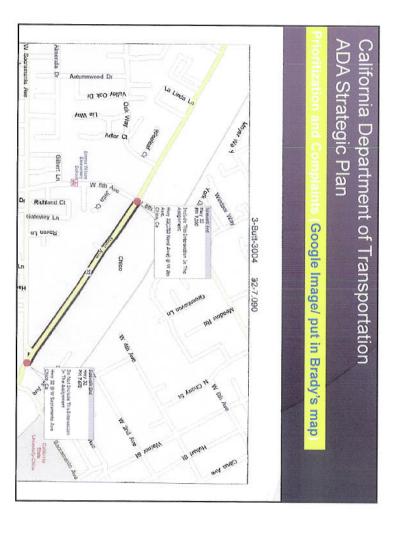


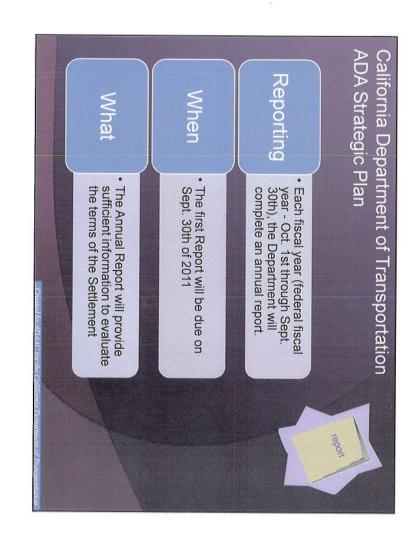
Prioritization of Annual Expenditure (Continued):

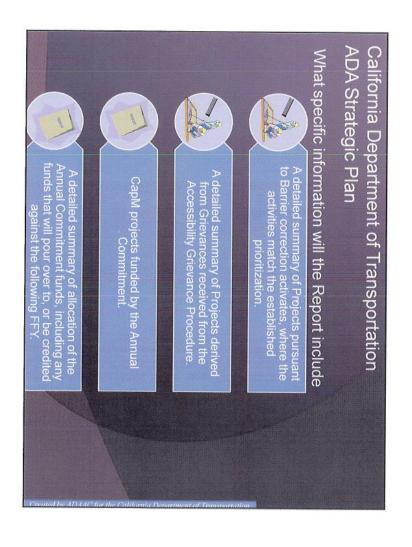
3rd Additional understanding of Projects and Prioritization

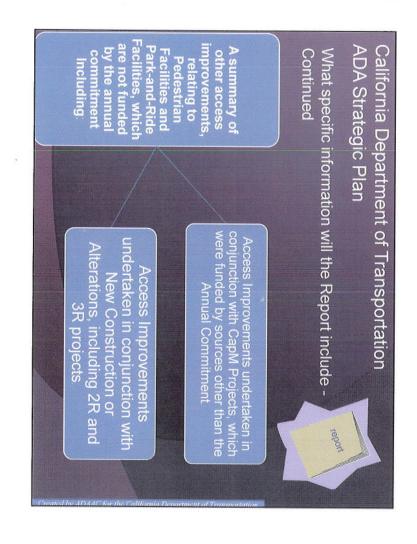
efficient methods of delivering such projects. (e.g. project scope may be expanded to address additional severe Program Access Improvements needed nearby, even if such improvement are not identified as a higher priority.

The Department will make good faith efforts to follow the priority guidance. However, the Department retains <u>ultimate discretion</u> in the selection and timing of the projects. This may result in addressing lower priority Improvements before those of higher priority.

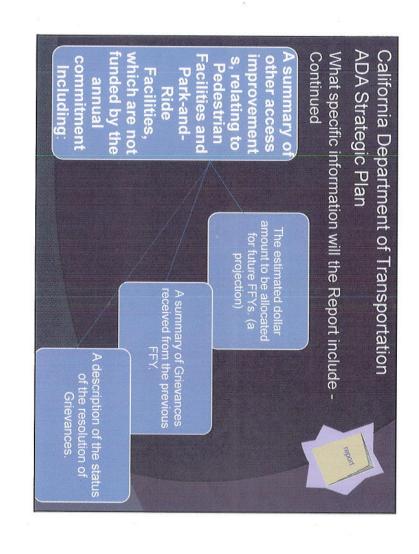


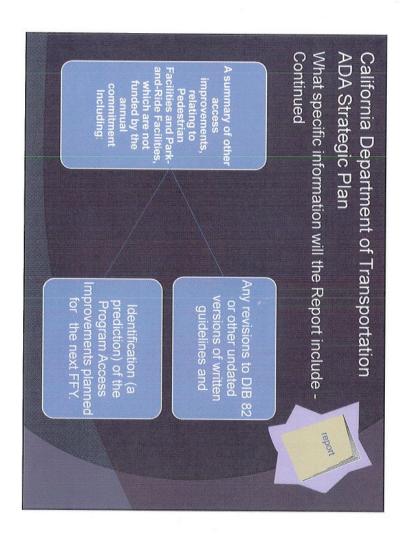




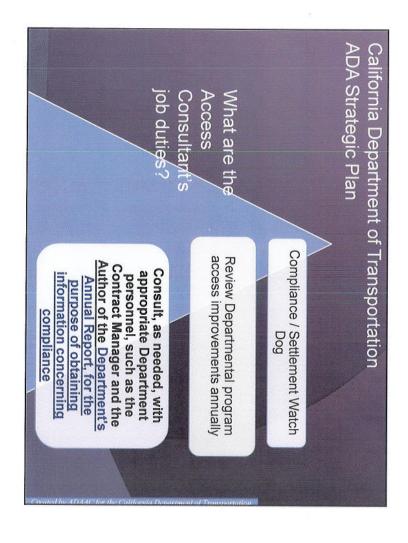


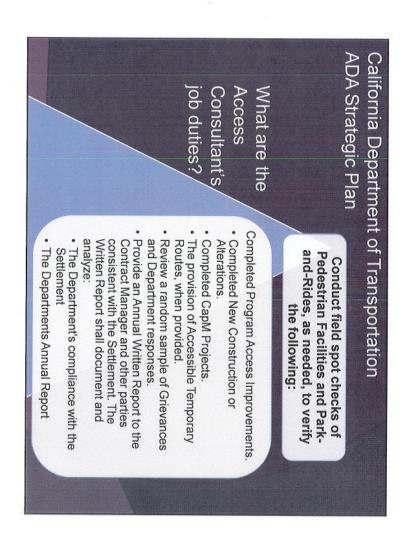


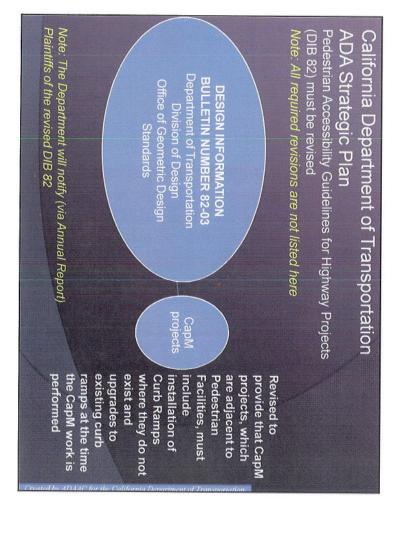












ADA Strategic Plan California Department of Transportation

Pedestrian Accessibility Guidelines for Highway Projects (DIB 82) must be revised

Note: All required revisions are not listed here

Department of Transportation DESIGN INFORMATION BULLETIN NUMBER 82-03

Section 4.2

adopt and must Revise, The Department

implement the DIB 82, Section 4.2 and others sections; and all relevant Caltrans's employees must be notified that

superseded the old DIB is

ADA Strategic Plan California Department of Transportation

Pedestrian Accessibility Guidelines for Highway Projects (DIB 82) must be revised

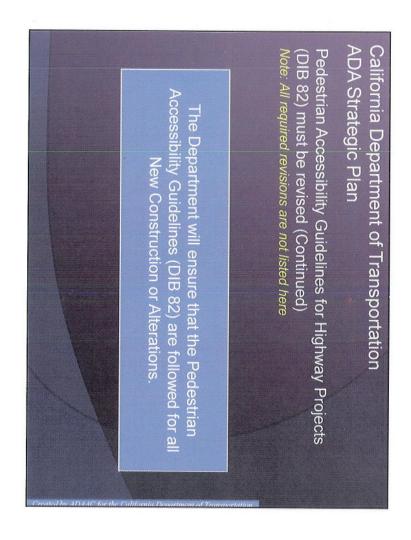
Note: All required revisions are not listed here

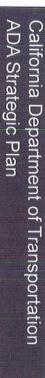
Department of Transportation DESIGN INFORMATION
BULLETIN NUMBER 82-03

Relationship to other standards

- the Department will comply with those standards. If the DIB 82 does access standards state of federal enforceable by other otherwise not address design features that are
- standards evolve,
 DIB 82 must be
 revised to synthesize
 and reflect these new
 standards. As state and federal

Note: The Department will notify (via Annual Report) Plaintiffs of the revised DIB 82





Accessible Temporary Routes through or around Work Zones The Department's obligations pertaining to Work Zones and

Zones & Accessible Temporary Routes Work document for workers in the field regarding the accessibility of Temporary Routes, when such Routes are provided. In the development of this Document, the Department will perform the following: informational Safety, and/or Federal Highway Administration Guidance Sheet Pacific Gas & Electric Company's "Path of Travel Pedestrian Access Encroachments" and Pedestrian Temporary Traffic Control Zone including but not limited to: models of other entities. Investigate procedural

Accessible Temporary Routes through or around Work Zones The Department's obligations pertaining to Work Zones and



summarized informational document for workers in the field regarding the accessibility of Temporary Routes, when such Routes are provided. In the development of this Document, the Department will perform the

The information Document must be consistent with Part 6 of the CA MUTCD

When the informational document is ready for dissemination to employees, contractors, and those requesting permits, a copy must be forwarded to the Plaintiff's Attorney

California Department of Transportation ADA Strategic Plan

Accessible Temporary Routes through or around Work Zones The Department's obligations pertaining to Work Zones and

Work
Zones &
Accessible
Temporary
Routes

document for workers in the field regarding the accessibility of Temporary Routes, when such Routes are provided. In the development of this Document, the Department will perform the

Develop and provide training to personnel responsible for the development, approval and implementation of Work Zones and Temporary Routes, where the training is consistent with the Informational Document

informational

Develop a

Training documents, once approved, must be provided to the Plaintiff's Attorney and Access Consultant

Accessible Temporary Routes through or around Work Zones The Department's obligations pertaining to Work Zones and



summarized informational document for workers in the field regarding the accessibility of Temporary Routes, when such Routes are provided. In the development of this Document, the Department will perform the following:

Whenever the
Department elects to
close any sidewalks due
to construction, the DIB
must be revised as
follows:

The DIB must be revised to reference CS MUTCD Part 6, Chapter 6D (Pedestrian and Worker safety procedures and the Department must ensure these procedures are followed

California Department of Transportation ADA Strategic Plan

Accessible Temporary Routes through or around Work Zones The Department's obligations pertaining to Work Zones and

Work
Zones &
Accessible
Temporary
Routes

summarized informational document for workers in the field regarding the accessibility of Temporary Routes, when such Routes are provided. In the development of this Document, the Department will perform the

The Department shall require a review of all contract plans and specifications as part of the normal project development review process to ensure Temporary Routes are Accessible

The construction manual and specifications must be modified to require preconstruction meetings/trainings with contractors regarding Work Zones and Temporary Routes

Accessible Temporary Routes through or around Work Zones The Department's obligations pertaining to Work Zones and



Develop a summarized informational document for workers in the field regarding the accessibility of Temporary Routes, when such Routes are provided. In the development of this Document, the Department

The content of the contractor's meeting/training will include how contractors will meet their contractual obligations and applicable guidance in the CA MUTCD

Contractors participation in these pre-construction meetings shall constitute certification that they fully understand said contractual obligations

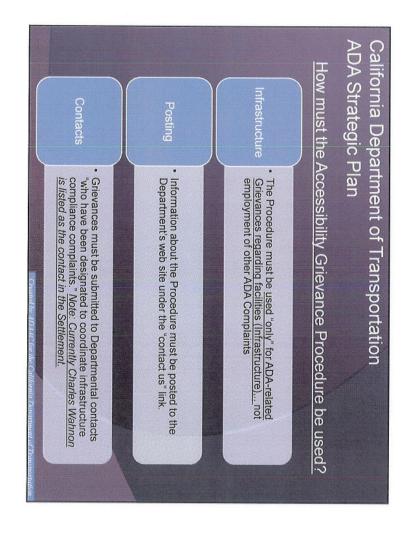
will perform the

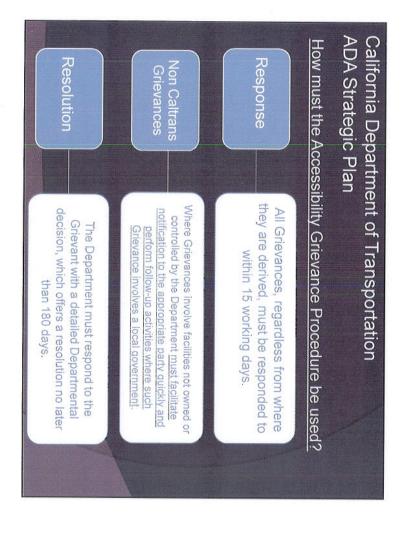
California Department of Transportation ADA Strategic Plan

The Department must use the Accessibility Grievance Procedure as defined by the Settlement for all ADA-related grievances Regarding "Facilities" owned or controlled by the Department

The existing Department's Personnel Policy governs "employment-related complaints of disability discrimination and therefore will not be used for grievances pertaining to "Facilities"

Note: The Grievance Procedure, as defined by the Settlement, must be utilized in its entirety, where the entirety will not be restated in this presentation. However, the following facts, derived from the Procedure, will be addressed on the following slides to help ensure complete understanding of issues presented by the Grievance Procedure





Proposed Settlement Of Class Action Lawsuit" What are the Department's obligations to provide "Notice of

Copy

- A copy of the Notice (as defined in Exhibit 8) must be mailed to the following organizations:
- organizations:

 U.S. Attorney General, Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Justice, and the Attorney General for the State of California. (Along with a request that each office publicize the Notice on their web sites.)

compliance with the Settlement relieves the Department from other Title Question: The above sentence begs the question of whether or not

California Department of Transportation ADA Strategic Plan

Proposed Settlement Of Class Action Lawsuit" What are the Department's obligations to provide "Notice of

Notice to Class Members

- The Department must provide (without charge) the "Notice" in accessible formats to class members, advocacy groups, governments, or their Counsel.
- Question: The above sentence begs the question of whether or not compliance with the Settlement relieves the Department from other Title II regulations regarding "Accessible Communications" including a variety of related Title II regulation.

Proposed Settlement Of Class Action Lawsuit" What are the Department's obligations to provide "Notice of

Web Site

- The Department must establish a web site where a copy of the "Notice" will be available in English, Spanish and accessible to individuals with visual impairments.
- Question: Once again, Title II and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 508) require all pages of the Department's public web site to be fully accessible. Does the above language exempt the Department from compliance with these Title II and Rehab Act regulations.

Question: Once again, Title II and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 508) require all pages of the Department's public web site to be fully accessible. Does the above language exempt the Department from compliance with these Title II and Rehab Act regulations?

California Department of Transportation ADA Strategic Plan

Important Settlement Definitions

creation of a comprehensive and accurate ADA Strategic Plan Settlement Definitions must be fully understood prior to the

Access Requests

Requests, comments, inquiries and formal Accessibility Grievances, from anywhere or anyone, that relate to Pedestrian Facilities and Park-and-Rides.

Question: Does this Language exempt other types of facilities in the right-of-way from Title II accessibility regulations?

Important Settlement Definitions California Department of Transportation ADA Strategic Plan

Settlement Definitions must be fully understood prior to the creation of a comprehensive and accurate ADA Strategic Plan

Jurisdiction Caltrans

- controlled by Caltrans, either in part of in full. Pedestrian Facilities and Park-and-Ride owned or
- Does this language exempt other types of facilities in the right-of-way from Title II accessibility regulations?

Pedestrian Facilities

- Paved walkways under Caltrans' Jurisdiction that are intended for use by the public, including, but not limited to: Outdoor pedestrian walkways, sidewalks, crosswalks, pedestrian under crossings and overcrossings.
 Comment: Therefore, Park-and-Rides and under and over crossings still need to be surveyed.

ADA Strategic Plan California Department of Transportation

Settlement Definitions (Continued)

Program ccess

public entity to operate each service, program or activity so they are readily accessible and usable by individuals with disabilities, accept for purposes of the settlement, as related to **APS**. Applicable federal access laws and California Access laws directing a

Settlement Definitions (Continued)

Note: The below information does not appear to relieve the department from other applicable Title II regulatory requirements

Settlement Statement

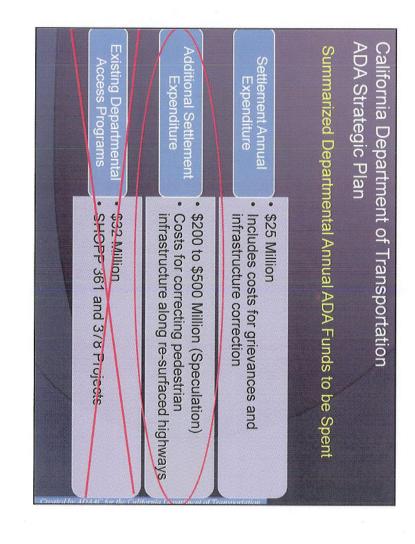
- Except for APS, "by complying with the terms of this Settlement, the Department shall have no obligation to do more to comply with federal access laws and/or California access laws relating to the subject matter of the Settlement."
- "The Department's compliance with the terms of the Settlement shall constitute a full and complete defense to any claim for injunctive or declaratory relief asserting that the Department has failed to comply with any and all federal and state laws, statutes, rules, regulations (including without limitation that <u>Self Evaluation and Transition Plan</u>, the Access Coordinator and grievance procedure..."

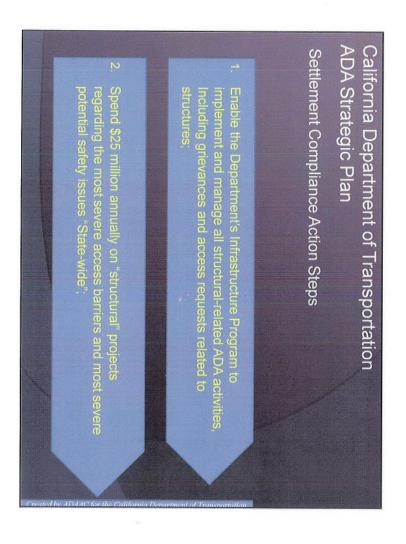
California Department of Transportation ADA Strategic Plan

Settlement Definitions (Continued)

Settlement Statement

•This Unparalleled commitment to access for disabled pedestrians will serve as a nationwide model, because no entity previously has addressed accessibility to a system of Pedestrian Facilities and Park-and-Ride Facilities on such a large scale.





Settlement Compliance Action Steps

DIB Section 4.1.3 should be revised according to new internal policies and programs

Facilities. Annual costs in excess of the 25% commitment cap (related to installation and/or upgrade of curb ramps for CAPM projects in order to comply with DIB 82 Section 4.1.3) shall be paid from other funds"): provisions of the Accessibility Guidelines <u>when</u> CAPM work is performed on a Vehicular Way with adjacent Pedestrian Ramps and upgrading Curb Ramps to the extent necessary for the Curb Ramps to comply with the applicable pursuant to Section 4.1.3 of DIB 82 (attached as Exhibit 3A to the Compliance Period, no more than 25% of the the Annual Commitment, except as follows: For each year of the Annual Commitment shall be allocated to installation of missing Curb Settlement Agreement) shall not count towards (Settlement...."New Construction and work done

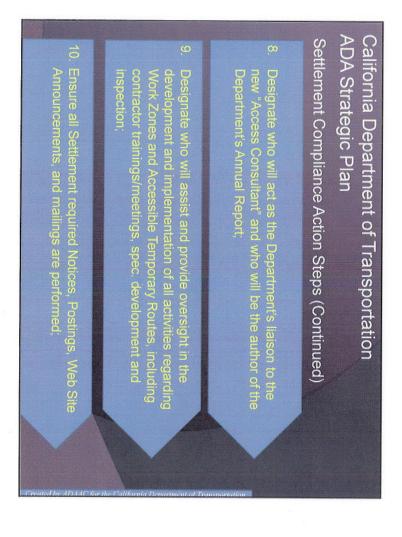
ADA Strategic Plan California Department of Transportation

Settlement Compliance Action Steps (Continued)

Enhance / modify projects performed under the new ADA Strategic Plan so they are completed timely;

Enact and improve the new ADA Grievance Process, as it pertains to infrastructure, so that complaints and access requests do not become federal or state complaints or lawsuits (re-organization of the Headquarters and District components of this process will be required):

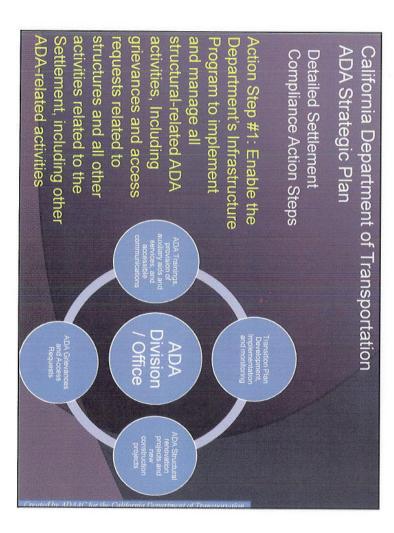
Settlement Compliance Action Steps (Continued) ADA Strategic Plan California Department of Transportation Complete updated Transition Plan by finishing site surveys of pedestrian paths (sidewalks, ourb ramps, crosswalks), pathways pertaining to over and under passes, and park-and-rides; Produce and enact training, new procedures and related actions, which are necessary to ensure that newly constructed or modified pedestrian infrastructure is in full compliance with applicable accessibility

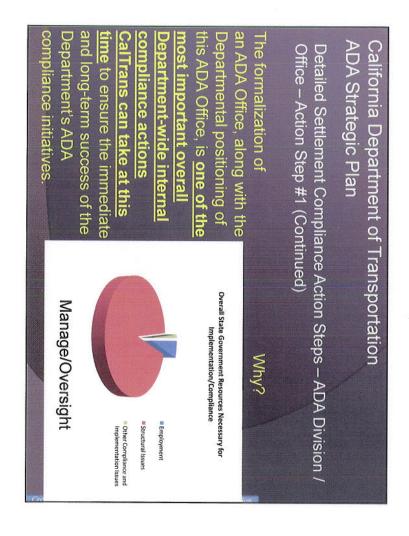


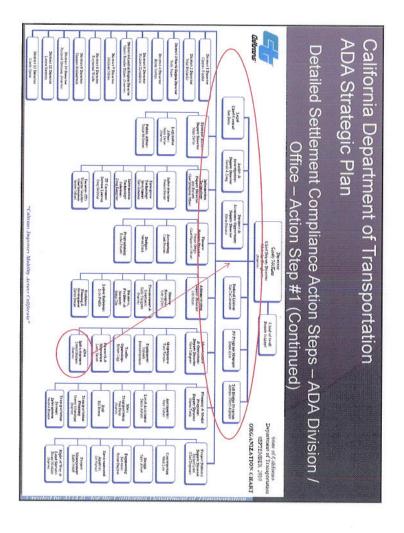
Settlement Compliance Action Steps (Continued)

- Ensure that all other ADA Title II requirements are followed where such requirements are not part of the Settlement, including, but not limited to:
- The provision and notice of auxiliary aids and services
- The provision of employment related accommodations
- ADA Web Site information
- Creation of an external disability advisory counci
- · Peline and train internal compilance teams
- Institutionalization of reasonable accommodation policies
- Departmental web site compliance with 508
- District ADA Coordinators
- Disability Awareness Training
- TAC Training
- Accessible emergency evacuation procedures, and
- All policies and practices meet or exceed

Inte II, Including APS, and revisions of DIB 82 (more stringent specifications)







ADA Strategic Plan California Department of Transportation

Detailed Settlement Compliance Action Steps – ADA Division / Office – Action Step #1 (Continued)

The new ADA Office will provide oversight, monitoring, training and/or instruction to, at a minimum, the following

Departmental offices (along with utilization of personnel within these offices)

- Districts Project delivery / Inspection
 Civil Rights Employment provisions compliance
 Public Affairs Public notices
 Construction Project delivery and training
 Design DIB / MUTCD / ADAAG / DOT

- Assistance Non-Departmental Complaints Management - Project Delivery
- 1987654321 intenance – Transition Plan implementation
 - FHWA Best practices
- related web based issues Information Technology – 508 compliance and

should also become part of the TAC from these offices Representatives

membership

ADA Strategic Plan California Department of Transportation

Settlement Compliance Action Steps – Action Step #2

regarding the most severe access barriers and most severe Spend \$25 million annually on "structural" projects potential safety issues "State-wide"

- How?

 1. Utilization of New Transition Plan priorities Action Step #7. paths (sidewalks, curb ramps, crosswalks), pathways pertaining to over (Complete updated Transition Plan by finishing site surveys of pedestrian and under passes, and park-and-rides.)
- į. N Control, manage and implement all grievances – by priority not become tederal or state complaints or lawsuits.) it pertains to infrastructure, so that complaints and access requests do (Action Step #5: Enact and improve the new ADA Grievance Process,
- Speed existing project management and implementation (Action Step #4: Enhance / modify projects performed under the new Plan so they are completed timely

R



Settlement Compliance Action Steps – Action Step #2

regarding the most severe access barriers and most severe Spend \$25 million annually on "structural" projects potential safety issues "State-wide" (Continued)

- Utilization of New Transition Plan priorities, and
- Control, manage and implement all grievances by priority

Discovery process of existing of existing Transition Plan inconsistencies exist and match them with locations identified by the priorities grievance process

Define and initiate the project's conceptual approval process at the

Discovery process of high priority complaints

 Determine where high priority grievances exist and cross reference with Transition Plan high priorities

California Department of Transportation ADA Strategic Plan

Settlement Compliance Action Steps – Action Step #2

Spend \$25 million annually on "structural" projects regarding the most severe access barriers and most severe potential safety issues "State-wide" (Continued)

1. Speed existing project management and implementation

Modify the PID (Project Initiation Document)
Process

HOW?????

• Take District personnel out of the process so that the process is performed solely at the new ADA Office in Headquarters???

The current process goes back and fourth between Districts and Headquarters — "The draft PIDs for curb ramp projects are to be submitted to Headquarters Office of Traffic Safety Program, prior to District approval, to ensure program eligibility. Upon District approval, an amendment request should be submitted to Headquarters Division of Programming for SHOPP programming."

Ment from Street

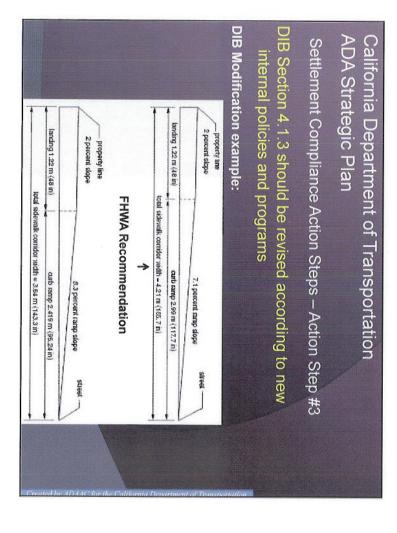
Settlement Compliance Action Steps – Action Step #3

DIB Section 4.1.3 should be revised according to new internal policies and programs

The Settlement requires some revisions of the DIB. This task should be fairly simple since a good design program already

However

to require more stringent specifications than just minimums and maximums as defined by federal and state guidelines and codes recommend the DIB (and MUTCD where necessary) be modified Since new construction appears to be continually completed in a manner, which is non-compliant with the DIB, we



Settlement Compliance Action Steps – Action Step #5

requests do not become federal or state complaints or pertains to infrastructure, so that complaints and access Enact and improve the new ADA Grievance Process, as it

 $\mathsf{laWSUltS}$ (re-organization of the Headquarters and District components of this process will be required).

Problems:

- appropriate time frame 15-day response time from complaint Intake. Based on our experience, ADA complaints are not currently dealt with in an
- 12 minimum specifications. Structural measures taken to fix/resolve complaints do not comply with
- ω timely manner - some complaining parties have actually died before the Structural measures taken to fix/resolve complaints are not completed in a structural fix was performed
- 4 Communications and technical understanding of complaints and resolutions between Headquarters and Districts appear to be inefficient and ineffective District and Headquarters personnel appear to be confused
- Lack of personnel solely dedicated to the complaint/grievance process

California Department of Transportation ADA Strategic Plan

Settlement Compliance Action Steps – Action Step #5

requests do not become federal or state complaints or lawsuits Enact and improve the new ADA Grievance Process, as it pertains to infrastructure, so that complaints and access

(re-organization of the Headquarters and District components of this process will be required);

Possible Resolutions:

- involved in the complaint process Detailed training and effective job descriptions written for all employees
- N front-line employees. Disability awareness and in-house grievance process training for all
- ω Due to a lack of personnel solely dedicated to the complaint/grievance (contract-out) all complaints to expert professionals temporarily. process and the enormity of existing and upcoming complaints - farm-out
- Ċ 4 Re-vamp all complaint/grievance related publications directing all complaints to the new ADA Office
- this individual would sort employment-related grievances to OBEO(Civil House the Department's ADA Coordinator within the new ADA Office, where

ADA Strategic Plan California Department of Transportation

Settlement Compliance Action Steps - Action Step #6

actions, which are necessary to ensure that newly constructed or modified pedestrian infrastructure is in full compliance with Produce and enact training, new procedures and related applicable accessibility guidelines;

Possible Resolutions:

- Detailed training (on-going) and effective job descriptions written for all employees involved in the ADA inspection process.

 Place the burden of compliance on contractors by changing the contract process, as defined by the Settlement, by providing training to contractors and changing contract documents clearly spelling out that the contractor is liable.
- ယ inspections to expert professionals temporarily. Such inspectors will hold contractors responsible on the spot and contractors will begin performing their work correctly. The inspection process should be wholly contained, monitored and performed as Due to a lack of personnel solely dedicated to the complaint/grievance process and the enormity of existing and upcoming complaints – farm-out(contract-out) all
- part of the new ADA Office

ADA Strategic Plan California Department of Transportation

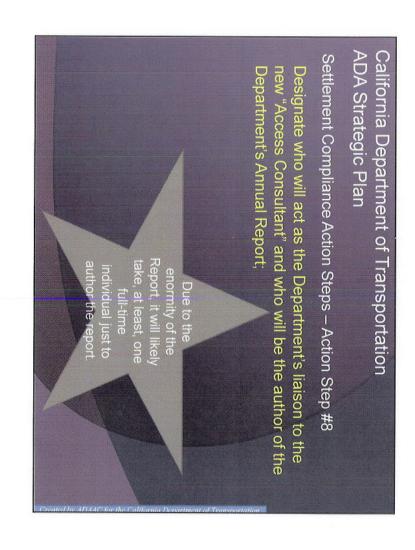
Settlement Compliance Action Steps - Action Step #7

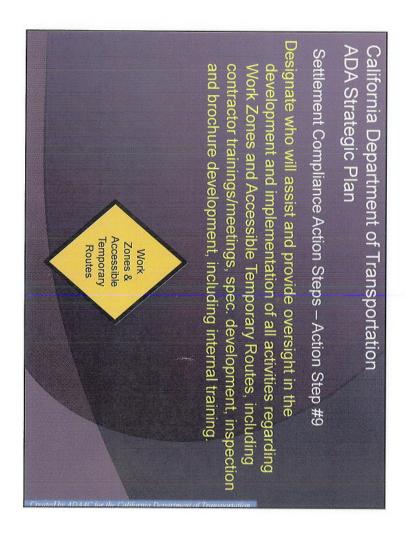
Complete updated Transition Plan by finishing site surveys of pedestrian paths (sidewalks, curb ramps, crosswalks) pathways pertaining to over and under passes, and

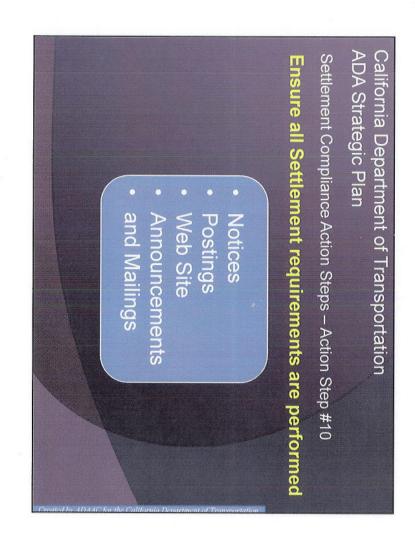
park-and-rides;

much more than the above
Settlement obligations –
all Caltrans buildings and
Facilities within and outside The ADA would require

relating to the subject matter of the Settlement. Except for **APS**, "by complying with the terms o constitute a full and complete defense







ADA Strategic Plan California Department of Transportation Settlement Compliance Action Steps - Action Step #11 The provision and notice of auxiliary aids and services The provision of employment related accommodations ccessible emergency evacuation procedures, and Ensure that all other ADA Title II requirements are followed where such requirements are not part of the Settlement, including, but not limited to

Settlement Compliance Action Steps - Action Step #11

Except for APS, "by complying with the terms of this Settlement, the Department shall have no obligation to do more to comply with federal access laws and/or California access laws relating to the subject matter of

the Access Coordinator and grievance procedure.. with any and all federal and state "The Department's compliance with the terms of the Settlement shall constitute a full and complete defense to any claim for injunctive or declaratory relief asserting that the Department has failed to comply with any and all rederal and state laws, statutes, rules, regulations including without limitation the Self Evaluation and Transition Plan,

Due to the above statement "relating to the subject matter of this Settlement" we recommend complying with all other ADA Title II regulations, which are not part of the Settlement.